

**To:** Purchia, Liz[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov]; Reynolds, Thomas[Reynolds.Thomas@epa.gov]  
**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Fri 8/14/2015 12:03:39 AM  
**Subject:** RE: DATA & MESSAGING for NM Aug 7-8 - PLEASE REVIEW

Based upon the surface water sample results in New Mexico surface water concentrations are returning to pre-event water-quality levels.

**From:** Purchia, Liz  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 5:57 PM  
**To:** Gray, David; Reynolds, Thomas  
**Subject:** FW: DATA & MESSAGING for NM Aug 7-8 - PLEASE REVIEW

**From:** Purchia, Liz  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 7:53 PM  
**To:** Hull, George; Mitchell, Stacey; Tulis, Dana; Burke, Thomas  
**Cc:** Harrison, Melissa; Davis, Tim; Valentine, Julia; Distefano, Nichole; Russo, Rebecca  
**Subject:** DATA & MESSAGING for NM Aug 7-8 - PLEASE REVIEW

We need everyone to look at this message ASAP. Once you respond to me, we need to get it posted on the web with the data.

Tim – We'll need you to get this data posted with the language below.

Julia – We'll need you to send it from the HQ list.

David – heads up to your media.

Nichole/Rebecca – You'll need to flag for your congressionals.

These needs to go up now because of a R6 public meeting.

**Date: 8.13.15**

**Contact:**

[press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov) or 970-812-3351

### **EPA Statement on Data from New Mexico to Navajo Nation from Gold King Mine Release**

**FARMINGTON, NM** - Today, EPA is releasing additional water quality data from Aug. 7 to Aug. 8, 2015 for the Animas and San Juan Rivers from the Northern Border of New Mexico to Navajo Nation. Based upon the surface water sample results in New Mexico it is anticipated that surface water concentrations will return to pre-event water-quality levels.

To assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine water quality, samples were collected from the Northern Border of New Mexico to Navajo Nation at numerous intervals beginning on Aug. 7, 2015. Samples were taken prior to the plume's arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury.

Surface water samples were collected on Friday, August 7, 2015, at four (4) locations prior to arrival of the plume along the Animas and San Juan Rivers in New Mexico. On Saturday, August

8, 2015, nine (9) locations were sampled after arrival of the plume.

EPA will continue to take additional samples to document the change in the concentration of metals in the river. EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal officials in New Mexico to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. These results are based on validated sampling data collected from Aug. 7 to Aug. 8, 2015.

HYPERLINK:

August 13, 2015: EPA statement on New Mexico data from Gold King Mine release